

1. Exercising those powers as individuals, as a board, definition of action
 - A. Actions which may be taken by individual board members –
 - (a) any individual board member may attend any group, conference, meeting, or seminar which may offer the board member more insight or information relevant to serving the citizens of Ravalli County.
 - (b) Any individual board member may gather information from, interview with, or observe county employees in the execution of their assigned job description. The board member will notify the department head of the interaction with the employee and will make every effort to interrupt employee and department activities as little as possible.
 - (c) Any individual board member may request information concerning the day-to-day operations of county departments and employees from department heads.
 - (d) Individual board members must be allowed to express opinions or concerns about the performance of a department as a whole or any individual function of a department as part of the performance of their duties within county government. An individual employee has a right to privacy concerning their individual job performance but the department must be subject to scrutiny as a part of the public process.
 - B. Actions which require board approval
 - (a) No individual board member may direct a department action or that of an individual employee without the consent of the board.
 - (b) All actions which are taken by individual board members on behalf of the board must be specifically authorized in advance.
 - (c) Entering into a contractual agreement or negotiating terms of a
 - C. The term “action” shall refer to any behavior, activity, intervention, inducement, or communication which may reasonably be expected have the effect of changing, starting, or stopping the activity of any subdivision of county government or its interaction with local, state, or federal agencies.

Establishment of powers and authority of the chair

- A. The duties and responsibilities of the Board of County Commissioners is contained in MCA and reaffirmed here.**
- B. Powers and authority of chair-** The chairperson's primary responsibility is to conduct public meetings and hearings as directed by policies and procedures developed and agreed upon by the board as a whole. The chairperson has no authority or duties above and beyond those of the individual board member except those which are specifically delegated or assigned to him or her by motion and shall not speak for the board or issue direction to any employee or department unilaterally. Although the Chair may be named as a point of contact, any correspondence or communication directed to the chair must be disseminated to all board members except in specific HR situations as defined by state and federal statute. To comply with Ravalli County's HR policies, the Chair will serve as the "supervisor" relative to the grievance process for the non supervised, executive departments which are the Commissioner's office, the finance office, and the HR department.
- C. Powers of board as a whole delegated to individual member of the board-**
The BCC may, by motion, delegate any of the following responsibilities or duties to an individual member of the board:
 - (a) To sign or execute documents, on behalf of the board, which authorize actions which were previously approved by the board. Each signature is a singular action and each must be approved in advance.**
 - (b) To receive communication from any outside agency or department and act as liaison to that agency or department**
 - (c) To attend groups, boards, conferences, or associations as a representative of the County and**
 - (d) To attend groups, boards, conferences, and associations as a voting member of such an organization**